judgement within certain specified parameters. This is applicable to all industries including the fertilizer industry. However, for the fertilizer industry, which operates under a Retention-cum-Subsidy Scheme, it would still be necessary for Government to satisfy itself on the proveness of technology and its effectiveness in terms of cost per unit of production, efficiency parameters in operation, etc., so that the cost of production and the subsidy outgo are the minimum.

Fertilizer subsidy

1177. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total amount of subsidy being paid on indigenous fertilizers and imported fertilizers at present;

(b) whether Government propose to reduce/abolish both the subsidies: and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) The Budget provision of fertilizer subsidy to be paid during the current financial year 1991-92 on indigenous and imported fertilizers is Rs. 3500 crores and Rs. 1300 crores, respectively.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Initiation of cases against pharmaceutical companies

1178. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether cases have been initiated against the pharmaceutical companies namely M/s. Carews Pharmaceuticals, M/s. Albert David and M/s. Novocole for overcharging the drugs namely combriam Analflam and Megadol respectively: and

(b) if so, what progress has been made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) and (b) In the case of M/s. Carews Pharmaceuticals, a tentative liability of Rs 7-11 crores was communicated to the company with the advise to deposit the same with the Government. The company has, however, obtained an interim stay in the matter from the Calcutta High Court. In the remaining two cases despite reminders, the concerned companies are not furnishing the details required by the Government to determine the overcharged amount, if any. The concerned State Drugs Controllers have been requested to use powers of para 23 of DPCO, 1987 to ensure that the requisite details are made available to the Government.

Foreign exchange requirement for import of fertilizers

1179. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign exchange requirement for the import of fertilizers in 1992-93 would be about Rs. 7000 crores;

(b) what is the total sum required to revamp the public sector fertiliser units proposed to be wound up for being sick; and

(c) If so, which of the two is beneficial for the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMI-